grains production is likely to fall short of the estimated output of 103 million tonnes this year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof Statewise; and

(c) what are the main reasons for the shortfall, and the steps taken by Government to maximise the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The final estimates of kharif foodgrain crops for 1991-92 have not yet become due from the States. However, as per the current assessment, the kharif foodgrain production this year is likely to fall short of the targetted level of 103 million tonnes.

(c) The reason for decline in kharif foodgrain production during 1990-91 is on account of long dry spells and aberrant weather conditions prevailing particularly in the north-western parts of the country including the States of Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. To make up the shortfall in the production of kharif foodgrains, strategy for the rabi season of 1991-92 has been drawn in consultation with the State Governments during the National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign. These include contingency cropping, larger area coverage under rabi/summer rice, wheat, rabi/summer maize, pulses etc., bringing additional area under irrigation from major and medium schemes. These steps are in addition to the implementation of the ongoing developmental programmes like Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP).

Performance of School Students in Delhi

135. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has proposed to conduct a study into the poor performance of secondary and Senior Secondary School students in Delhi during the 1990-91 exams.; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Delhi Administration, a Committee of Educationists was constituted to conduct a study on the poor performance of Secondary and Sr. Secondary school students in Delhi during the 1990-91 examinations. The Committee has pointed out the following reasons for poor results:—

(i) Poor socio-economic background of the students in Government schools.

(ii) Lack of interest of parents of students of rural, resettlement colonies and J.J. colonies.

(iii) Delay in filling up of vacancies.

(iv) The change of system of compulsory passing in all the five subjects instead of four subjects.

(v) Change of curriculum in some of the subjects.

(vi) Change of pattern of papers by CBSE.

(vii) Delay in supply of books by NCERT.

(viii) Agitation against Mandal Commission Recommendations.

(ix) Disruption of studies due to various strikes, agitations, demonstrations and bandhs in Delhi by various parties and groups.

(x) Deployment of teachers of Government Schools in census and election duties.

The Delhi Administration have taken the following steps to improve the situtation:—

(i) Inservice training to teachers.

(ii) Remedial teaching of students.

(iii) Most of the vacancies have been/are being filled up.

(iv) Distribution of syllabus of each class to individual students.

(v) Arrangements made of timely availability of books.

(vi) Copies of the new pattern of Question Papers supplied to all students.

(vii) Assignments of lessons to be provided to students of Government Schools.

(viii) Providing furniture, equipment, etc. in the schools.

(ix) Construction of semi-pucca structures in place of tents in a good number of schools.

(x) Study corners scheme for students living in J.J. clusters/slums and resettlement colonies.

(xi) Coaching classes for meritorious students belonging to poor & SC/ST classes for preparing them for competitive examinations.

(xii) Improvement of teaching of science, Math etc.

(xiii) System of giving incentives for good performance and disincentives for poor results to the Prinpals and teachers.

(xiv) Workshop/seminars of subject-wise teachers being organised to upgrade the skills of teahcers in all the districts.

(xv) System of a continuous process of improvement in studies evolved.

(xvi) The schools whose performance was very dismal have been adopted by senior officers of the Headquarters of Dte of Education as well as Dy. Director/Education Officers at the rate of 3-4 schools by each officer. Such schools will be frequently inspected by officers and performance will be reviewed and monitored regularly.

Subscribers Trunk Dialling facility for Members of Parliament

136. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide free Subscribers Trunk Dialling facility to the Members of Parliament through the STD PCOs in the Parliament House Complex; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) It has been decided to provide STD facilities for Members in one of the existing telephone booths in the inner lobby of Lok Sabha Chamber wherefrom Members can make outstation calls on the days when Lok Sabha sits.

Every Member shall be provided with a chip card valid for five hundred units each. Members can make calls to any station in the country having STD facility.

Project Report on Earthquake affected district of U.P.

137. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have directed